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BULLETIN



JUNIOR NORMAL SCHOOLS

Alliance, Holdrege, McCook, North Platte
Valentine

1903

STATE OF NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
LINCOLN

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State of Nebraska
Department of Public Instruction
Lincoln

May 12, 1903.

To County Superintendents, School Officers and Teachers:

Junior Normal Schools have been established at Alliance, Holdrege, McCook, North Platte and Valentine, under the following law passed by the Legislature of 1903:

(House Roll No. 100)

ESTABLISHMENT

SECTION 1. That there be and there hereby is established in the State of Nebraska not less than three and not more than five junior normal schools at such time and places as are hereinafter designated.

TIME AND PLACES OF HOLDING

Sec. 2. That the terms and time of holding these junior normal schools shall be not less than ten weeks between the first day of June and the first day of September of each year; and that three of these junior normal schools shall be established and maintained in the school districts of Alliance, McCook and Valentine, and at not more than two other places to be determined by the state superintendent of public instruction. Provided, That at each of these places the public school buildings, text books and apparatus of the respective school districts be placed at the service of the state under the jurisdiction of the state superintendent.

ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

Sec. 3. The organization and management of the junior normal schools shall be under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of public instruction, and he shall, as far as practicable, attend such junior normal schools, provide proper instructors for the same, and make and complete all other arrangements.

COURSE OF STUDY

Sec. 4. The studies pursued at these junior normal schools shall be a part of the regularly prescribed course of the state normal school

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or schools, and students in regular attendance and pursuing and completing these studies in a satisfactory manner shall be granted a certificate to that effect, signed by the conductor of the junior normal school and countersigned by the state superintendent, which certificate shall entitle the holder to proper credit at the state normal school or schools.

APPROPRIATION

Sec. 5. That there be and there hereby is appropriated out of any moneys in the state treasury and not otherwise appropriated the sum of twelve thousand (\$12,000.00) dollars for the purpose of establishing and maintaining said junior normal schools.

(Now in effect.)

REASONS FOR SUCH SCHOOLS

The Junior Normal Schools are for those who cannot afford to take a complete course elsewhere. Each fall we have in the schools of this state over 2500 new, inexperienced teachers. Of the 9000 teachers employed every year, but 5.5 per cent are graduates of a college or university; but 40 per cent have a high school education or its equivalent; 29 per cent receive less than a three years' high school education, and 15 per cent have no high school training. These figures show that less than 16 per cent have anything like professional training.

The great majority of the teachers in the territory of these junior normal schools can hardly afford to attend our state normal school at Peru or any other normal school or college, all of which are located in the eastern half of the state. Many of these teachers are without high school advantages. Hence, the junior normal schools offer them their first opportunity for academic and professional training. And since the time for attendance at the junior normals comes during vacation months we expect to enroll over one thousand teachers for the full term of ten weeks in the five schools. It is quite probable that fifteen hundred different teachers will be enrolled, at least a part of the time, as many counties will be incorporated with the junior normal schools under the union normal institute law. Such an attendance means better teaching next year for twelve or fifteen thousand school children in Western Nebraska. Is it not worth while?

The teachers in the counties tributary to these schools are in

more need of the advantages and opportunities which will be offered them for academic and professional training. They deserve such privileges. They are worthy of them. They cannot afford to miss the advantages of these schools. By comparing notes and exchanging thoughts, progressive ideas on problems of education throughout these counties will be unified. They who do not advance, recede. The great and far-reaching trusts committed to our care, as well as the spirit of the times in which we live, demand earnest and unremitting efforts to secure progress. These schools have been established solely in the interest of progress. Such opportunities have never before been offered to the teachers of Western Nebraska. The union normal institutes last year were a great help to many teachers. But the junior normal schools this year will be far superior to the union normal institutes of last year. Every teacher in the territory of these schools who is not a college or normal school graduate, and who expects to teach next year, is under obligations to the people to attend the entire term. And those who have never taught, but who contemplate teaching next year, should not apply for a certificate unless they are willing to attend one of these schools for the entire term, or some other good school for an equal period.

Those teachers who attend the full term of ten weeks, and who manifest a desire to be profited in methods, in scholarship, in an increased love for the work, should be given proper credit on the examination by their respective county superintendents. Therefore, I recommend that all teachers who attend the full term and who make good use of every opportunity offered by these schools be excused from examination in every branch with a grade of 80 or above, and in addition thereto that a credit of 5 per cent on the general average be given to every such teacher.

Further, every teacher who attends any one of these schools for the full term of ten weeks will be worth at least \$10 per month more to her school. I urge upon school officers then only simple justice when I say that they should pay higher salaries to those teachers who thus prepare for their work than to the indifferent teachers who do not make such preparation. There is no way to have better schools unless we have better teachers. Let the teachers prepare for their work. Let school officers pay the highest wages the funds of the district will permit for the best

qualified teacher available. In this way, and in this way only, can we exalt our schools.

THE COURSE OF STUDY

In explanation of the statement made in Section 4 of House Roll No. 100, relative to the course of study, I desire to say that classes will be organized in all the subjects required for first, second and third grade county certificates, especial emphasis being given to the common branches. The science and art of school government will receive special attention and will be treated in a common sense, practical manner.

One of the leading features in each of these junior normals will be a model school, conducted by a primary teacher abreast the times in educational thought and practice. By MODEL school, it is meant to have the work demonstrated by classes of children in the first, second and third grades in reading, numbers and language. The other features of the model school will comprise instruction in methods, busy work, nature study, etc. It will be a MODEL school in FACT as well as in NAME—a school in which the young teacher may have the benefit of actual exercise in the business of instruction under the direction of a MODEL teacher.

Teachers should plan to take three or four academic studies, devoting the remainder of their time to professional training in the model school and in the science and art of teaching and the science and art of school government. To know the matter to be taught, and to know it thoroughly, are of themselves, though essential, not all that is required. There is a peculiar art of teaching. The details of this branch are inexhaustible, but it is hoped that the most important principles may be brought within such a compass as to afford material benefit to those who pass even the short term of ten weeks in any one of these schools. The best method of governing a school—that is, of exercising such a moral influence in it as is most favorable to the improvement of the pupils—will form a very important part of the course designed to qualify teachers for their signal calling. How much is implied in the words, “to govern a school!” The instruction in this branch will, therefore, dwell on the government of the youth as of paramount importance, as that part of the teacher’s duty which demands the rarest union of qualities, which most tries the temper, and, when faithfully and judiciously performed, is most im-

portant and far-reaching in its results. "Give me the child whose heart has embraced without violence the gentle love of obedience, in whom the sprightliness of youth has not encroached on deference for authority, and I would rather have him for my son, though at the age of twelve he should have his alphabet to learn, than be compelled to struggle with the caprice of a self-willed, obstinate youth, whose bosom has become a viper's nest of the unamiable passions, although in early attainments he may be the wonder of the day."

THE INSTRUCTORS

No discrimination has been made in the selection of the faculty for the several schools. In each school the instructors are men and women of scholarship, experience, integrity,—men and women of well-known and approved educational opinions. They are among the ablest school men and women of the state. They are acquainted with the public school system; with the needs of the public schools and especially the needs of the rural schools. They know the needs of the hour and the demands of the future. They are men and women of heart power as well as brain power. Each instructor is peculiarly fitted for the work he is to do; peculiarly fitted for the school to which he has been assigned.

TUITION AND ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

These Junior Normal Schools will be absolutely free to all teachers and prospective teachers of Nebraska. Not even an institute fee can be charged. Attendants must be "fourteen years of age, of good moral character, and of good physical health," who "have a fair knowledge of the common school branches such as may be obtained in the country schools or in the lower eight grades of well organized city schools."

REDUCED RAILROAD RATES

The railroads make a rate of one and one-third fare for the round trip on the certificate plan for certain dates. Teachers should not fail to take receipts when they purchase their tickets. This will entitle them to return at a one-third fare. Otherwise they will have to pay full fare both ways. Tickets will be sold at this rate, the "going" dates limited to June 6, 7 and 8, and August 9 and 10, good returning on or before August 17. Dates for Valentine will be one week later.

SPECIAL FEATURES

A *conference hour* will be held each day of the term to give teachers an opportunity to receive special help from their instructors on perplexing problems, questions, etc., except on certain days when this hour will be given over to the county superintendents to discuss with their own teachers matters of special interest and importance relative to the work in the home county.

There will be an *art exhibit* containing a collection of beautiful and interesting pictures suitable for schoolroom decoration. The subjects were selected by Horace K. Turner of Boston from the finest masterpieces of the world. By rare good fortune we were able to secure these pictures for several days at each of these junior normals.

Music will be given special attention. Two classes will be organized in each of these schools. One class will be composed of those who read music readily. This class will meet about three times a week for rehearsal. It will lead the singing at the chapel hour each day, and will furnish music on special occasions during the entire term of the school. It will give two concerts, the first about the middle of the term, the second near the close. The other class will comprise those who must learn the rudiments of music. It will meet five days each week for practice.

There will be a strong *lecture course* maintained at each of these schools free to all teachers enrolled from counties incorporated with the junior normal school under the union normal institute law. Teachers from counties not so incorporated will be required to pay the same price as that made to the general public for lectures, entertainments, etc.; unless the county superintendents in counties not uniting under this law set aside a sufficient amount of the institute fund to give their teachers a season ticket for the lecture course free. None of the state appropriation will be used to pay lecturers. This expense must be paid out of the institute fund and public patronage. County superintendents should notify their own respective teachers what arrangements have been made with this department relative to the lecture course.

UNION NORMAL INSTITUTE

Where counties in the territory of these schools desire to be incorporated with them under the union normal institute law and

thus by a merging of state and county funds add to the efficiency of the school in faculty, lecture course, etc., and in many ways increase the power of the school to help the teachers, we shall be glad to comply with such requests, as we have already done at each of the places where the junior normal schools are to be held.

The last week of the junior normal school will be the union normal institute for those counties incorporated under this law. Let it be kept in mind by all concerned that no tuition will be charged those who attend any of the junior normal schools or any of the union normal institutes connected with them. Teachers who attend the union normal institute should be excused from attendance at the institute held in the home county.

If any institute be held in the home county let it be before the beginning of the junior normal or after its close. This plan would give the junior normal schools a clear field and a fair test. If every county superintendent in the territory of these schools do their duty by them, we shall make the greatest advancement in the professional training of teachers ever recorded in a single year's work in the history of the state.

LOYAL SUPPORT ASSURED

The attendance at these schools depends almost entirely upon the attitude of the county superintendents, and we are pleased to announce that loyal support is assured from this source, as the following extracts from letters now on file with this department prove:

SUPT. A. SOFTLEY, Perkins County:

"I am thinking of advising the teachers and school boards of this county to make their contracts BEFORE the Junior State Normal at North Platte begins. I think also that it would make a material increase in the size of our delegation there if the contracts would contain a proviso that teachers attend the junior normal school the full term or nearly so. If you favor the idea I shall send each board two contracts with the advice to use them as soon as possible."

I favor such stipulation in the teacher's contract; provided, school officers will pay a salary commensurate with such preparation. I believe teachers stand ready to meet such terms when there is a tenure of office and a salary guaranteed which will warrant such expense and such preparation on their part.

SUPT. ESTELLA M. DANIELS, Brown County:

"If higher wages, as a result of a better preparation, were assured, I am confident that more than half of the teachers of Brown county would attend the entire term of ten weeks. I am counting on at least twenty-five of my teachers to attend the entire term, and full attendance during the institute week."

SUPT. I. B. RAICHART, Dundy County:

"It is my desire to do all that I can towards making the junior normal at McCook a success. I shall use our papers to assist this school in a large attendance from Dundy county."

SUPT. G. M. HOPKINS, Rock County:

"I shall do my best for the success of the Valentine junior normal school. I am perfectly willing that the expense of a lecture course for Rock county teachers at Valentine be paid out of the institute fund of this county."

MRS W. E. HEARD, Supt. Banner County:

"I am elated over the passage of House Roll No. 100. I shall use every effort possible to secure a good attendance from this county."

SUPT. JAMES O'CONNELL, Hitchcock County:

"It is my intention to hold a short county institute, attempting nothing but professional training. I shall advise all my teachers who possibly can to attend the junior normal at McCook."

SUPT. IDA M. KIMBERLING, Chase County:

"There will be quite a number of my teachers who will attend at McCook. I want all who can to take advantage of it."

SUPT. CONRAD PARSONS, Sioux County:

"I am glad the junior normal bill has become a law. It is what we need in western Nebraska. I will do all in my power to make the school at Alliance a success."

SUPT. ALICE WILKINSON, Kimball County:

"I am so glad that we are to have the junior normal, and nearly every one with whom I have spoken concerning it are much in favor of it. I like the plan to do away with the county institute unless there be some who cannot attend at Alliance."

SUPT. H. L. FISHER, Dawes County:

"You can depend on my hearty co-operation in the work for the junior normal. I believe as suggested that it is better to do away with the county institute."

SUPT. H. R. DELLINGER, Grant County:

"You may incorporate Grant county with the junior normal school at Alliance."

SUPT. WALTER R. KENT, Sheridan County:

"I wish you to incorporate my county with the junior normal at Alliance under the union normal institute law. I am trying to induce the great majority of my teachers to go to Alliance, and I hope to succeed."

SUPT. C. P. CHAMBERS, Cheyenne County:

"I hope to send 25 to 40 of my teachers to Alliance. I surely will excuse all my teachers from attendance at institute who attend at Alliance one-half the time or more."

SUPT. U. C. BREITHAUP, Harlan County:

"I think no locality has more need of such a school than that tributary to Holdrege. In case you deem it best to locate one of the junior normals at your disposal there, I shall do all in my power to get as many of my teachers to attend the entire time as possible."

Supt. J. W. Baumgardner of Box Butte County, Supt. E. E. Larson of Phelps County, Supt. E. S. Dutcher of Red Willow County, Supt. O. W. Neale of Lincoln County, and Supt. Etta Brown of Cherry County, are putting forth herculean efforts for the success of the school in their respective counties. Supt. W. H. Bartz, Principal of the Alliance junior normal, has matters in excellent order there. Supt. J. F. Conner, Principal of the Holdrege junior normal, is master of the situation there. Supt. Geo. H. Thomas, Principal of the McCook junior normal, is equal to every responsibility of his office. Supt. W. H. Gardner, Principal of the North Platte junior normal, is an executive of high rank, and Supt. R. H. Watson, Principal of the Valentine junior normal, is an organizer second to none.

The citizens at each of the places where these schools are located are doing all that could be asked to make the stay of teachers pleasant as well as profitable. The statement made in behalf of each place by those whose words cannot be questioned is evidence beyond doubt that all who attend these schools will be given a hearty welcome and royal entertainment.

ALLIANCE JUNIOR NORMAL

FACULTY.

Superintendent W. H. Bartz, of Alliance, Principal; Professor C. W. Philpott, of Lincoln, Instructor; Superintendent S. H. Martin, of Rushville, Instructor; Prof. P. E. McCoy, of Norfolk, Instructor, Miss Nellie Schlee, of Hastings, Conductor of Model School.

COST OF ATTENDANCE AT ALLIANCE.

"There will be several places where those who desire to work for their board may do so.

"We have some rooms suitable for light house-keeping to accommodate from two to eight persons clubbing together; should you be able to form such clubs in your county let us know at once, so that we may reserve such rooms for said clubs; those willing to pay a little higher price for board, say \$3.50 per week, should write us at once as we can supply about thirty at said rate for superior board. Those wishing to pay \$4 per week for board and room for first class accommodations should also write us. There will be a dining hall conducted here during the normal at which table board may be had for \$2.75 per week. Well furnished rooms may be had at from 50 cents to one dollar a week for each teacher, two or more occupying the room together.

(Signed) { W. H. BARTZ,
Supt. City Schools
J. W. BAUMGARDNER,
County Superintendent

For further information regarding cost of attendance at Alliance, address Supt. W. H. Bartz or Supt. J. W. Baumgardner, Alliance, Nebraska.

HOLDREGE JUNIOR NORMAL

FACULTY

Superintendent J. F. Conner, of Holdrege, Principal; Professor A. J. Mercer, of Lincoln, Instructor; Superintendent A. A. Reed, Superior, Instructor; Principal C. H. Miller of Wahoo, Instructor; Miss Anna Caldwell, of Lincoln, Conductor of Model School.

COST OF ATTENDANCE AT HOLDREGE

"Last year those who wished to be specially economical boarded themselves. Most of the others paid \$3.00 to \$3.50. None paid over \$3.50 and quite a number obtained it for \$2.75. Supt. Larson feels certain that he can safely promise board and lodging for \$3.00 to \$3.50 this year. Doubtless some will get it for less than \$3.00 but he does not deem it wise to promise this. Supt. Larson took entire charge of this last year and made a personal canvass of the town. No difficulty was found by teachers

in securing places, and Supt. Larson had a considerable number of places on his list that were not used. I heard no complaint whatever from teachers concerning accommodations or prices. I think it can be handled easier this year than last as those here last year will largely secure by mail the places they had last year, and will also assist their friends who come this year for the first time.

“Our committee has collected a fund of \$300 for use in connection with the junior normal.”

(Signed)

J. F. CONNER,

Supt. City Schools

For further information concerning cost of attendance at Holdrege, address J. F. Conner, Holdrege, Nebraska.

McCOOK JUNIOR NORMAL

FACULTY

Superintendent Geo. H. Thomas, of McCook, Principal; Superintendent A. O. Thomas, of Kearney, Instructor; Miss Cora O'Connell, Fremont High School, Instructor; Principal H. E. Bradford, of Lincoln, Instructor; Mrs. Sarah Brindley, of Columbus, Conductor of Model School.

COST OF ATTENDANCE AT MCCOOK

“We will maintain separate lists of boarding and rooming places, some \$4 per week, some \$3.50 per week, and others \$3 for board and room; we have at this writing rooms for more than twenty at no cost whatever; the maximum charges for rooms alone, on our lists, is fifty cents per week; we will have conducted under our management a dining hall, where the largest possible number will be accommodated at the actual minimum cost; in this dining hall needy teachers will be enabled to wait on table for their board. By the use of this ‘Sliding Scale’ it is estimated that the average cost for board and room will be \$2.55. We go on the principle that if there be teachers in attendance who want to pay for extras, let them do so, and we will assist them to find such accommodations, while for the others who are under great need to economize, the committee will be constantly endeavoring to assist and help them, and make their course in the school just as cheap as it can be made. Bus and baggage fare will be free, as will also the school buildings, the halls and churches, the court

room, light and ice. To do this, to show our desire to entertain this summer school pleasantly here, and our ability, the business men have put at the disposal of our committee \$250, to be spent by them in such a way as will minister to the comfort of the teachers and help make the school a success. We feel that the large number of beautiful and pleasant homes in McCook, the green grass, the public park, the water, the electric light, the band, the base ball team, as well as a superior school equipment, are features of a high educational value, which, while they may not be estimated in dollars and cents to McCook's advantage, yet should be taken into account by the teachers in reaching their decision as to where they will attend."

(Signed:)

GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Supt. City Schools.

For further information regarding McCook Junior Normal, address Supt. Geo. H. Thomas, McCook.

NORTH PLATTE JUNIOR NORMAL

FACULTY

Superintendent W. H. Gardner, of Auburn, Principal; Superintendent Joseph Sparks, of Aurora, Instructor; Principal J. C. Orr, of North Platte, Instructor; Principal T. A. Butcher, of Ashland, Instructor; Miss Grace Greves, of Fremont, Conductor of Model School.

COST OF ATTENDANCE AT NORTH PLATTE

"I have investigated the situation here and find that we can give good room and board for \$3.00 per week. Of course we can supply them with from \$3.00 to \$4.00 room and board if desired.

"We have not had time yet to report relative to a dining hall, but think arrangements can be made for one.

Good rooms can be obtained for 50 cts. and \$1.00 per week.

"I will state that if there is a good lecture course selected I will guarantee the sale of 200 tickets."

(Signed)

OSCAR W. NEALE,
County Superintendent

For further information relative to attendance at North Platte, address Supt. O. W. Neale, North Platte.

VALENTINE JUNIOR NORMAL

FACULTY

Superintendent R. H. Watson, of Valentine, Principal; Superintendent G. A. Gregory, of Crete, Instructor; Superintendent E. E. Magee, of Fairmont, Instructor; Miss Eva O'Sullivan, of South Omaha High School, Instructor; Miss Eleanor Lally, of Lincoln, Conductor of Model School.

COST OF ATTENDANCE AT VALENTINE

"The dining hall here I am confident will be a success. We have raised \$400 and that will equip the hall in good shape. We aim to furnish board at actual cost, but in order to be safe we have decided to make a charge of \$2.75 per week if paid the ten weeks in advance, or to the end of the term from time of entrance, provided such entrance is not after the middle of the term, then it will be \$3 per week. If board is paid weekly in advance the rate will be \$3 per week. If at the end of the term there are sufficient funds on hand received from *board* to warrant a refund of 25 cents per week or more it will be refunded. If any teacher has to quit school on account of sickness, a refund will be made in all such cases. We believe board will not cost teachers more than \$2.50 per week where paid in advance. Furnished rooms will be from 50 cents to \$1 per week. Some private rooms and board maybe had at \$3.50 to \$4 per week. The average cost will be about \$3.50—not over that. In no instance need board and lodging cost to exceed \$3.75 per week, or \$37.50 for the term."

(Signed)

J. C. PETTIJOHN,

Sec'y Board of Education

For further information relative to attendance at Valentine, address Supt. R. H. Watson, Valentine.

LECTURES AND ENTERTAINMENTS

We are pleased to announce the following lecture talent for each school: Frank R. Roberson, the most widely known lecturer on travel in America, will give one of his best lectures which will be illustrated by one hundred and fifty colored views. Wesleyan Male Quartette, no superior on this continent—afternoon and evening in two of their best programs. Debate on the Woman Suffrage Question between Miss Laura A. Gregg, the Joan of Arc on this question in the West, and Dr. A. L. Bixby,

the Poet Laureate of Nebraska.

Dr. George E. Condra, University of Nebraska, will lecture on "The Geography of Nebraska," illustrated by stereopticon.

Congressman E. J. Burkett will lecture on "The Young Man and the New Woman."

Governor J. H. Mickey will speak on "Good Citizenship."

Dr. W. A. Clark, Principal of the State Normal School at Peru, Dean Chas. Fordyce, of the Nebraska Wesleyan University, State Superintendent W. K. Fowler and Deputy J. L. McBrien will spend two days at each school, and each will give two addresses on questions of peculiar interest to teachers.

An effort is being made to secure the Slayton Jubilee Singers or some first class musical attraction for one entertainment at each school during the last week of the term, and we hope to be able to make this announcement in due time.

FREE TEXT BOOKS

Arrangements have been made whereby teachers in attendance at these schools will be furnished all necessary text books free. This is an item of considerable importance to teachers in cutting down expenses. However, teachers should bring with them whatever text books and reference books they may have at their command. Such books will be of good service to their owners many times.

A CHECK ON AGENTS

No agent or firm will be allowed to annoy teachers by trying to take their orders for educational journals, helps, etc., in or around the school building, without special permission of the principal of the school. In no instance will exhibits of such supplies be tolerated in or around the school building. If teachers want supplies they may order them through their county superintendent, instructor, local dealer, or order for themselves through the mail. This action is taken to protect teachers from over-zealous agents, and to give to teachers the advantage of all discounts. The only exception we make to this rule is for the Nebraska Teacher. We believe every teacher in the state should subscribe for this paper. Authorized representatives of the Nebraska Teacher will be given a limited opportunity to present their terms and clubbing rates at each junior normal.

IN CONCLUSION

In conclusion, let me impress this thought. The schools are in our hands. We are responsible for their character. Each of us has a work to do that can be done by no other. The burden is upon us all, and we may bear it bravely or shift it to other shoulders. Better schools await our united action. Division makes failure inevitable.

Yours for Better Schools,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "W. H. Fowler". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed title "State Superintendent".

State Superintendent.

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